

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A gland packing wherein a water swelling mineral is stuck or impregnated into a surface or an inner part of a gland packing base material, wherein the water swelling mineral is stuck to at least the surface of the gland packing base material and an amount of sticking is equal to or larger than $0.01 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The gland packing according to claim 1, wherein the water swelling mineral is water swelling mica.

Claim 4 (Canceled).